

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (canceled).
2. (currently amended): A process for producing a titanium oxide ~~according to claim 1~~ the process comprising the steps of
 - (i) mixing an acidic solution of a titanium compound with a nitrogen-containing basic organic compound to obtain a reaction product, wherein the nitrogen-containing basic organic compound is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of an acyclic amine, an alicyclic amine and an aromatic amine; and
 - (ii) calcining the obtained reaction product.
3. (original): A process for producing a titanium oxide according to claim 2, wherein the nitrogen-containing basic organic compound is an acyclic amine.
4. (original): A process for producing a titanium oxide according to claim 3, wherein the acyclic amine is selected from the group consisting of primary monoamines having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, primary diamines having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, dialkylamines having 2 to 10 carbon atoms and trialkylamines having 3 to 10 carbon atoms.
5. (currently amended): A process for producing a titanium oxide according to claim ~~1 or~~ 2, wherein calcination step (ii) is conducted in an atmosphere having an oxygen content of about 10% by volume or less.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
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a2 6. (currently amended): A process for producing a titanium oxide according to claim ~~1 or~~ 2, wherein calcination step (ii) is conducted at the temperature of from about 300°C to about 600°C.

7. (new): A process for producing a titanium oxide according to claim 2, wherein the nitrogen-containing basic organic compound is an alicyclic amine or a mixture thereof.

a3 8. (new): A process for producing a titanium oxide according to claim 2, wherein the nitrogen-containing basic organic compound is an aromatic amine or a mixture thereof.

9. (new): A process for producing a titanium oxide according to claim 3, wherein the acyclic amine is selected from the group consisting of methylamine, ethylamine, n-propylamine, n-butylamine, iso-propylamine, sec-butylamine, ethyleneamine, 1,3-propanediamine, 1,2-propanediamine, dimethylamine, diethylamine, trimethylamine and triethylamine.
